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**THE ART OF CROSS-EXAMINATION.** By Francis L. Wellman, of the New York Bar  
With the cross-examinations of important witnesses in some celebrated cases.  
New and enlarged edition. The MacMillan Company, New York. 1904.

This most interesting book—first published less than a year ago—has gone through several reprints and is now revised, much new and valuable matter being added. Few men could be better prepared than Mr. Wellman to discuss the art of cross-examination, for he is a trial lawyer of twenty-five years' experience, and as stated in his preface, has cross-examined no less than fifteen thousand witnesses in his practice in New York City. While it is exceedingly difficult to lay down any "hard and fast" rules governing the cross-examination of witnesses, yet the observations of a man experienced in the art can not fail to be helpful to those who are ambitious to become proficient in this "the rarest, the most useful and the most difficult to be acquired of all the accomplishments of the advocate." The work gives many examples of cross-examination by distinguished lawyers, among the most interesting of which is the cross-examination of Miss Martinez by Hon. Joseph H. Choate in the celebrated breach of promise case of *Martinez v. Del Valle*, and the cross-examination of Russell Sage (also conducted by Mr. Choate) in the case of *Laidlaw v. Sage*, in which the celebrated financier was charged with having forced the plaintiff between himself and the deranged Norcross who exploded the dynamite in Mr. Sage's office, after the latter had refused his demand for twelve hundred thousand dollars.

No lawyer who reads Mr. Wellman's book can fail to profit thereby, and at the same time he will find its pages filled with the most intensely interesting illustrations of how great masters have plied their art.

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**THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATES UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.** By C. Stuart Patterson, author of *Railway Accident Law* and former Dean and Professor of Constitutional Law in the University of Pennsylvania. T. & J. W. Johnson & Co., Philadelphia. 1904.

The author treats his subjects under the following titles:

Chapter I. The Relation of the States and of the Territories to the United States and to Each Other.

Chapter II. The Implied Powers.

Chapter III. Taxation.

Chapter IV. The Regulation of Commerce.

Chapter V. The Impairment of the Obligation of Contracts.

Chapter VI. Ex Post Facto Laws and Bills of Attainder.

Chapter VII. The Prohibition of State Bills of Credit.

Chapter VIII. State Compacts.

Chapter IX. Fugitives from Justice.

Chapter X. The Judicial Power.

Chapter XI. Rights of Persons and of Property.

Chapter XII. The Federal Supremacy and the Reserved Rights of the States.

The work contains a discussion of the Insular cases, the Anti-Trust Act, the problems arising out of state legislation as to railroad rates, the Inter-

state Commerce Act, and the many decisions under the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment, the ever present subject of "due process of law," and "equal protection of laws" being thoroughly discussed.

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**HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.** By Henry H. Ingersoll, LL. D.,  
Dean of the University of Tennessee School of Law. West Publishing Co., St.  
Paul, Minn. 1904.

This is the twenty-ninth volume of the now well-known Hornbook series, which have proven so valuable to the practitioner. Too much can not be said in commendation of that feature peculiar to the Hornbook series, to wit, concisely stating the leading principles in black letter type. It not only furnishes the lawyer with the most convenient method of quickly reviewing the general principles of a subject, but it tends to insure careful and accurate statement on the part of the author, for he must of necessity have thoroughly digested his subject in order to evolve the general principle from the mass of authority.

The work is divided into three parts. Part 1. Quasi Corporations, by which the author means every local sub-division of a state other than the municipality created by general law as an agency of the state to effect the administration of public affairs and the enforcement of the law. Part 2 deals with Municipal Corporations, devoting four hundred pages to that subject. Part 3 is taken up with the discussion of Quasi Public Corporations, and under this head is discussed the leading principles affecting railroads, electric construction and gas companies, and other like companies of less importance.

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**THE POLITICAL HISTORY OF VIRGINIA DURING THE RECONSTRUCTION.** By Hamilton James Eckenrode. The Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore. 1904.

This is one of the valuable series in the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Sciences. The work is one of peculiar interest to the student of Virginia history. The author begins with an account of the Alexandria government and the Reconstruction Measures attempted in that city before the end of the war. He treats the memorable secession campaign of 1867 and the Constitutional Convention of 1867-8. He says that this convention was remarkable in that none of the well-known politicians of Virginia took part in it. He says that the ablest debator on the floor was John L. Marye, Jr., of Fredericksburg, and that the most aggressive "conservative" leader was Eustace Gibson of Giles. Among the radical leaders he mentions the late Edgar Allan of Richmond. Those who remember the stormy days of reconstruction will read with peculiar relish this review of the happenings of those never-to-be-forgotten days.